

POCAHONTAS TIMES.

ANDREW PRICE, EDITOR
Marlinton, Friday, June 7, 1895

SENATOR CAMDEN was the first man to file a petition to recover from the government the amount paid by him under the income tax.

THE editor of this paper acknowledges an invitation to be present at the commencement exercises of the Lewisburg Female Institute, June 1st to June 4th.

In answer to the *Gazette's* inquiry as to the silver sentiment, as to the free and unlimited coinage of silver, Dr. J. P. Moomau of this county says, "In principal, I am opposed to it, but in order to satisfy a growing demand of the people, I believe it would be to the best interests of our people." His ratio is 16 to 1. He says holding a state convention would be unwise, in his belief, at this time, but if held it should be at Charleston. E. W. Knight, Geo. McClintic and Malcolm Knight say, "Not without an international agreement; under present circumstances no."

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Collecting Evidence.

It may be worth while to discuss for a few minutes the very latest railroad prospects. With the presence of Mr S. C. Weir, Chief of engineering corps of the C. & O. R. R. Company, renewed speculation was indulged in as to what his work in the county portended, if anything. His business here was to prospect on the proposed extension of the West Virginia Central from Elkins. The local authorities in railroad matters say that it behooves Mr Davis to take possession of this unoccupied territory right speedily if he would at all. The United States Leather Company, which is quite up to the mark as being able to build railroads, will extend the Dry Fork Railroad into the lands of the Rochester Boom & Lumber Company, another millionaire concern, which owns nearly the whole upper end of the county, if the latter company gives them all the tannery on their holdings.

Mr Davis has been hemmed in on the other side of Elkins by the B. & O. R. R., and it is to be hoped that he fully appreciates that delays are dangerous. With a railroad on this side of him as well, his only outlet from Elkins would be up the river valley which leads to a complicated series of mountain ranges at the head of the river, forming the apex of the two Virginias.

The West Virginia Central, we are reliably informed, has never done a day's work on the eastern extension towards Hagerstown, of which so much was heard a short time since. This is almost incredible, for judging from newspaper reports, thousands of men had been employed to work this season on this route.

This being true, it would be very easy to be believed that work might begin on this end of the road at once. The expense of building the road into Pocahontas in the direction of the C. & O. R. R. is not more than a fourth as great per mile as on the Hagerstown extension, according to the estimates.

Having argued the road into the county, it is, of course, of minor importance to know the course it will take through the county. Mr Weir examined carefully the lay of the land in the upper part of Pocahontas. Coming south there are three routes open to a railroad which would have for their terminal points Driscool, Huntersville, and Marlinton respectively. As for the Greenbrier River route, the engineer refused to examine it, and expended his time on the country through which a railroad would run towards Huntersville or Driscool. It is reported that Mr Davis refuses to consider the route leading to Marlinton.

However, there is no way of judging whether it is coming at all or where it will strike if it does come. Railroads go by contraries more nearly than anything else in the world, and "For ways that are dark, and for tricks that are vain, The elusive railroad is peculiar."

When the smoke of the laboring locomotive commingles with the clouds that wreath the summits of our border mountains, it will seem very strange that we were once in the dark as to whether our first railroad would come down on us from Cheat, Alleghany, Williams' River Mountain, Elk, or Cranberry.

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M. F. GIESEY,
Architect and Superintendent,
Room, 19, Reilly Block,
Wheeling, W. Va.

Sketches of Local Interest.

In many respects the valley of Knapp's Creek is one the most inviting of our county. From Driscool to Frost and beyond is a series of interesting views, attractive to the eye. This valley is formed by Brown's Mountain on the west, and the Alleghanies on the east. Tradition derives its name from Knapp Gregory, a noted hunter and Indian scout, traces of whose cabin are yet visible near Peter L. Cleek's gate. One of the features which characterize the mountain scenery, is the number peaks and ridges, all of which are named, and by their names they are so well known to hunters and cattle rangers, that they can give each other all needed information as to the whereabouts of stock or game, seen by each one respectively, while in the ranges.

At the head of the valley stands Paddy's Knob, near where the road crosses into Highland county. It was recently used for a signal station and it is a favorite resort in summer for picnic parties from the two states, it overlooks. Its name was owing to this incident. Several years since, two hunters were watching a lick, and by mistake killed a horse named Paddy, belonging to Townsends on Back Creek.

Mad Sheep named from a sheep that showed signs of hydrophobia.

Mad Tom, Hickman's Ridge, Old Hump, Squirrel Ridge, opposite Moore's Sawmill; Shumate Ridge, near Wise Herold's; Moses Ridge, near Andrew Herold's; Forked Ridge, opposite Brown Moore's.

Jake's Ridge, near Dennis Dever's named after Jacob Lightner.

Next is Peter's Ridge, named after Peter Lightner. It was along these ridges, Peter Lightner and his son Jacob Lightner went out to the range with their stock. Straight Ridge, near Hugh Dever's; Evick Ridge, opposite Newton Moore's, named after J. Evick, the noted gun-maker. He lived on the upper part of the Harper place, on the east side of the creek. Little Mountain Spur is opposite Harper's Mill.

At Daugherty's Ridge opposite Sunset, the main summit of the Alleghany disappears, and Lockridge Ridge begins, and with the Alleghany, it forms the Laurel Run valley, through which Laurel creek winds its sinuous course until it blends with Douthard's Creek.

Tradition reports that a Colonel Knisewander from Shenendoah county early in the century came on frequent hunting excursions. During one of these he was pursuing a wounded deer by its bloody trail, and while crossing a drain putting into Laurel Creek, he found a bright metallic substance that he believed to be silver or lead. Thinking he could find the place easily, he kept on after his game. In the meantime heavy rains intervened and he could never find the place, even after repeated efforts to do so. This information was derived from the late venerable George Kee, an intimate friend of Colonel Knisewander.

No political party would ever dare go back to the McKinley bill and its unreasonable taxes.

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